GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:137
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2009
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO HEALTH PROJECTS
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any external financial assistance for the implementation of health projects;

(b) if so, the details of the funds received during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the programmes undertaken in this regard; and

(c) the benefits accrued/likely to accrue as a result thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)
(a)to(c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 137 FOR 25TH FEBRUARY, 2009

(a) Yes.

(b) The external financial assistance received for health sector projects is Rs. 2234.92 crores in the year 2005-06, Rs. 1885.71 crores in the year 2006-07, Rs. 2985.73 crores in the year 2007-08 and Rs. 3089.60 crores in the year 2008-09.

The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), a comprehensive flagship Programme, encompassing a number of interventions, was launched by the Government of India in April, 2005, to improve the availability of and access to quality health care by people. Under NRHM, Programmes such as Reproductive and Child Health Programme-II (RCH-II), Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme, Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP), National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) and Polio Eradication Programme receive external assistance. Besides, National AIDS Control Programme launched with the objective of containing and reversing spread of HIV/AIDS also receives external assistance.

The various Health Sector Programmes/Projects are supported by Domestic Budget as well as External Assistance. The External Assistance is provided by various international organisations such as World Health Organisation (WHO), World Bank/International Development Association (IDA), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), German Assistance (Kfw & GTZ), Japan International Co- operation Agency (JICA), Department for International Development (DFID), UK, Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), Denmark, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM), European Commission (EC), Global Alliance for Vaccine Immunization (GAVI), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

(c) The health sector in India has been strengthened and service delivery has improved substantially after the launch of NRHM. The Mission has helped in operationalizing First Referral Units (FRUs), 24x7 Primary Health Centres (PHCs), setting up of centres for skill based training and orienting the programme managers and health professionals in the implementation of different activities in improving public health care. NRHM has improved public health services in the country. It has also galvanized the systems for higher Out- Patient Department (OPD), In-Patient Department (IPD), institutional deliveries, immunization, diagnostics and referral ambulance service. The availability of skilled human resources drugs and supplies, better, cleaner facilities has rejuvenated the public health system. Till date, over 6,50,000 Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) have been appointed in the states to function as the link between the citizens and the health system. As part of the community led action for health, 3,61,000 Village Health and sanitation Committees (VHSCs) have been constituted in the country. In order to ensure community ownership of the health facilities, 26,262 Hospital Management Societies {Rogi Kalyan Samitis (RKS)} have been set up. The NRHM is also helping the states in addressing the critical gaps in operationalizing the Health Facilities. Under the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme, there has been an appreciable decline in the disease prevalence and mortality on account of malaria. The National AIDS Control Programme has articulated a clear and effective response to increase access to services and effective behaviour change communication.

The Revised National TB Control Programme has been consistently achieving global cure and detection rate targets. Deaths due to TB have declined from 42/lakh population in 1990 to 25/lakh in 2006. The Polio Eradication Programme has achieved significant success in terms of reducing number of cases and number of infected districts.